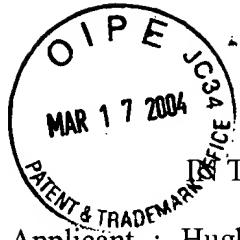


AF / 3739
Attorney's Docket No.: 14170-014001 / 25-31-0017 #



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hugh Sharkey and Gary S.
Fanton
Serial No. : 08/714,987
Filed : September 17, 1996
Title : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLED CONTRACTION OF SOFT
TISSUE

Art Unit : 3739
Examiner : David M. Shay

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

NOTICE OF APPEAL

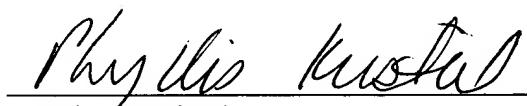
Applicant hereby appeals to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the action dated September 17, 2003, finally rejecting claims 48, 50, 53-55, and 74-94.

A petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136 to extend the time to respond to the final rejection for 3 month(s) to and including March 17, 2004 is enclosed.

A check in the amount of \$330 for the appeal fee is enclosed. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 15, 2004


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